

Nannie Ruberta Flanagan and Elbert Moyer Tyson

Elbert Moyer Tyson, son of Grigg T. Tyson of Pitt County was born January 3, 1890. He lived his entire life until the time of his death on February 23, 1976 in Pitt County. He married Nanny Ruberta Flanagan, daughter of John Hardy Flanagan and Nanny Bathsheba Smith Flanagan on December 18, 1912.

Elbert owned and operated the farm on Ballard's Cross Roads which he tended all of his working life. The farm was a dairy farm, primarily, however, he also raised tobacco and it seemed that every kind of animal and livestock was kept there. His farm was unique because his farming techniques were a blend of historical methods and more modern methods. For instance, he kept geese which were used to help grass out of the crops, the geese preferring grass to a crop such as tobacco. Elbert had studied Agriculture at N. C. State College and won prizes for his dairy operations.

Ruberta Flanagan Tyson was born March 10, 1890 and grew up in the Farmville, N. C. farming community. Her husband's farm at Ballard's Cross Roads was between Farmville and Greenville, N. C. The Tyson children were fun to be around and always had interesting projects going on. The family was musically inclined and would sing without provocation.

It is not known what further education Ruberta had beyond the schools in Farmville, however, she taught school at Ballard's Cross Roads. As you can well imagine, Ruberta had her hands full with six sons and a daughter to raise. In addition of course, keeping her sister, Mert, with Mert's limitations only added to her work load but it could not have been done with more joy and grace. Such was the life of many mothers and wives during that period.

In addition to raising their children, Elbert and Ruberta Tyson cared for her sister, Myrtle Daphene Flanagan in their home throughout the years. Mert, as she was called, was a polio victim, and was severely crippled with a very bad speech impediment. She required constant care.

Elbert Tyson's sister, Annie Louise Tyson (b. October 2, 1892 - d. 1974) married John Hardy Flanagan, Jr.

A complete genealogical lineage of the Tyson family, including a photograph of Elbert and Ruberta and their seven children, can be found in The Tyson and May Genealogy of Pitt County, Tyson and May Genealogy Committee with Roger Kammerer, Genealogist.